



June 29, 2015

Island Insight

This publication is published weekly and contains information about, for, and of interest to the Island Workforce. This document is also available on the Garrison Internet page under "Information" and on the installation website at www.usagria.army.mil under "News" and then "Local News."

Island Insight Submission: <https://home.ria.army.mil/sites/ii/ii.cfm>

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Independence Day

The United States of America declared its independence with a founding document which stated that all are equal and endowed with inalienable rights, and that the only legitimate government is that which derives its power from the consent of the governed. The words of the Declaration of Independence still resonate more than two centuries after they were written, and continue to inspire hope in freedom-loving people everywhere. Independence Day is a celebration of our nation's establishment and, more importantly, of the values of freedom and liberty upon which it was established. This holiday also reminds us that our freedom came at a cost, paid first by the soldiers of the Continental Army who validated the words of the Declaration of Independence through courageous action on the battlefield, and then by members of later generations who defended freedom through their service and sacrifice. Today, I proudly count myself among those who continue to serve, a member of the greatest Army on Earth that,



Upcoming Dates

- July 8:** Tenant Senior NCO Meeting, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
July 9: JMC Change of Command, Memorial Field, 2 p.m.
July 10: Ghost Hunters Dinner & Tour of Quarters One, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 6 p.m.
July 14-16: DA Photos, Bldg. 56, Basement, 7:20 a.m.
July 15: Parent to Parent Workshop, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 9 a.m.
July 16 & 17: Real Colors Training, Bldg. 56, First Floor, Classroom #1, 8 a.m.
July 17: RIA AUSA Annual Golf Outing, Arsenal Island Golf Course
July 20: AMC Best Warrior Competition
July 20: Stress Management Workshop, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 11 a.m.
July 22: Army Community Service 50th Anniversary Celebration, ACS Spaces, Bldg. 110
July 22: Couples Communication Class, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 5 p.m.
July 23: Corps of Engineers Organizational Day, Memorial Park, 11 a.m.
July 23: Council of Colonels, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
July 28-Aug. 2: The Wall That Heals, Memorial Park
July 28: BRC-Motorcycle Riding Course, Motorcycle Range, 7:30 a.m.
July 29: JMC Organizational Day
July 30: BRC2-Motorcycle Riding Course, Motorcycle Range, 7:30 a.m.
July 30 – Aug. 2: The Wall That Heals, Memorial Field

along with our sister services, stands in defense of the greatest nation on Earth. I ask that you take time to remember your fellow citizens in military service on Independence Day, and also to thank our veterans and their families, because the freedom we enjoy was made possible by them. I thank you for this opportunity to freely express my thoughts, and I invite you to freely express yours, because the best way to celebrate freedom is to exercise it. May you all have a safe and happy Independence Day holiday, and may you always enjoy the blessings of freedom. - *Maj. Gen. Kevin G. O'Connell, Commanding General, U.S. Army Sustainment Command & Senior Mission Commander, Rock Island Arsenal*

White House Fence Gets Spiky Under Security Enhancement

The White House fence will start to get a spiked top on Wednesday in a short-term bid to thwart intrusions at the U.S. executive mansion, authorities said. The "removable anti-climb feature" with sharp metal points will be bolted on top of the black iron fence by the U.S. Secret Service and National Park Service, the agencies said in a statement on Tuesday. "These temporary measures are meant to satisfy security needs while a long-term solution is designed and implemented," it said. The feature was designed by the Secret Service and built by the [Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center](#). Work is expected to take about six weeks. The changes were sparked by a September intrusion when an Iraq war veteran carrying a knife scaled the fence, ran across the North Lawn and entered the residence before being tackled by a Secret Service officer. ([More](#))



First Army HHD Welcomes New First Sergeant

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, First Army, welcomed their new first sergeant during a change of responsibility ceremony here on July 1. First Sgt. Joseph Wertz, a 16-year Army veteran, replaced 1st Sgt. Michael Bernard in the ceremony held in the foyer of First Army headquarters. HHD commander, Capt. Jeffrey Sudbeck, said the ceremony featured one quality leader replacing another. "First Sgt. Bernard, your wisdom, sound advice, and expert leadership during the past 24 months have been absolutely superb," Sudbeck said. "And in 1st Sgt. Wertz, the Army selected the right senior leader to assist me in heading HHD, First Army. It's easy to see why he was selected. He is a dedicated infantryman who has served in various key NCO leadership positions. ([More](#))



ASC Leadership Offers Career Guidance to Local Teens

Maj. Gen. Kevin O'Connell, commanding general, U.S. Army Sustainment Command, and other RIA employees, met with teens and their mentors in the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program, here, June, 30. The event was designed to help the teens understand what it takes to have a military or civilian career on the Arsenal. "Today is an incredible opportunity for our kids," said Jay Justin, CEO and president of BBBS in the Quad-Cities area. "We always talk about how there are decisions you make every day that are positive and negative on your future, and what they see today is just endless opportunities, a roadmap for success in their lives." BBBS is a national organization that pairs 6- to



18-year-olds (Littles) with volunteer adult mentors (Bigs). The Littles who visited the Arsenal were between the ages of 12-17. ([More](#))

July 2015 Force Protection Message.

This message advises U.S. personnel (military, civilian and family members) of potential threats from extremists during the 2015 summer season. We are sending this message to heighten awareness that holiday events and recreational activities during the summer season could pose as potential targets for extremists. We ask everyone to remain vigilant. Please, contact the Rock Island Police Department, at 9-1-1, to report any emergency or suspicious activity. For the last year, ISIL and its supporters have engaged in on-line internet campaigns urging followers to conduct independent attacks. We have seen some of these acts in the past several months at several military installations and across the country. We recommend that all RIA personnel maintain awareness during any summer event along with vigilance at airports, train stations, and other mass transit locations, special events and holiday venues (mass gathering areas). Examples of suspicious activity: • People drawing or measuring important buildings/locations; • Strangers asking questions related to security, protection procedures or sensitive information; • Individuals taking pictures of sensitive areas/locations. (Use of unauthorized photography devices such as cell phones and unapproved cameras are prohibited other than at historical sites, museum and VA cemetery); • Individuals located in restricted/sensitive where they are not supposed to be; • Vehicles parked in no-parking zones or left for days without movement. What to report: Provide law enforcement with as much information as possible. Description of the type of activity and location. (who, what, when, where and how many). During the next several months the Garrison, in conjunction with command and tenant force protection officers, will focus (reinforce) specific measures (training and education) to ensure the RIA family are aware of the reporting requirements and systems. We hope you will use these activities, as well as those directed by your command, to increase your workforces' knowledge and awareness. If there are any questions or concerns, contact your organizational security personnel or the Installation Antiterrorism Officer, Michael Luchner, 309-782-4577.



Antiterrorism Awareness Quarterly Theme -- Antiterrorism Training

The Army antiterrorism awareness theme for the fourth quarter (July through September) fiscal 2015 (4Q/FY15) is antiterrorism training. The audience for this theme includes antiterrorism officers and Army leaders who plan and execute antiterrorism training. This theme overlaps and supports the observance of Antiterrorism Awareness Month which is observed in August. Training is critical to the Army's antiterrorism readiness and the hallmark of our ability to assess, detect, defend, warn, and recover from acts of terrorism. Antiterrorism training, whether at the individual or collective level is fundamental to our preparedness and defense against the terrorist threat.

([More](#))

AMC Town Hall

The AMC Commanding General, Gen. Dennis Via, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics, and Technology, the Honorable Heidi Shyu, will be hosting a town hall at the Rock Island Arsenal on Thursday, **July 9**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., in Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60. All AMC and ASA (AL&T) employees with a duty station of Rock Island Arsenal are invited to attend. If you plan to attend, please arrive by 8:15 a.m. The town hall will begin at 8:30 a.m. and late entry is not allowed. Seating is on a first-come, first serve basis. The town hall will end at 9:30 a.m. The town hall will include a



question and answer session. This is your opportunity to ask questions appropriate for a four-star general to answer concerning the future of your organization and the Army. Please refrain from asking questions about Rock Island Arsenal issues like security, parking, etc.

JMC Change of Command/ Brig. Gen. Kristin French Retirement Ceremony

The ceremony will be on Thursday, **July 9**, at Memorial Field at 2 p.m. There will be shuttle bus service from Bldg. 350 to Memorial Field. The bus schedule is as follows: 1:20-1:55 p.m.: Continuous runs from Bldg. 350 to Memorial Field. The pick-up point at Bldg. 350 is on the West side, South Bay (Awning 2). The ceremony will begin promptly at 2 p.m.; 2:45-4:30 p.m.: Continuous runs from Memorial Field to Bldg. 350. The pick-up point at Memorial Field will be the same as the drop off point at Memorial Field. If there is inclement weather, the ceremony will be in Heritage Hall. That decision will be decided the day of the ceremony, and employees will be notified. In the event of inclement weather, buses will transport employees to Heritage Hall in Bldg. 60.



Rain Dates for June 11 River Bandits game

Ticket holders who experienced the **June 11** rainout of the Quad City River Bandits can use their tickets at either the **July 7** game with the Clinton Lumberkings, or the **Aug. 20** game with the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. Tickets can be exchanged in advance or on game day before the game.

Blood Drives

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in the room outside the Lock and Dam Lounge (in Bldg. 60), on **Friday, July 10 & 17 and Aug. 13 & 20, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to e-mail SHoegerl@mvrbc.com with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at 563-359-5401, ext. 119. A **2nd shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **6:30 p.m. on Aug. 13 & 20**. A **3rd shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **2:15 a.m. on Aug. 28**. To sign up for a blood drive held on either the 2nd or 3rd shift, donors should contact their shift supervisor. DMC will host a blood drive **1-4:30 p.m., on Aug. 13**, in the MVRBC Donor Bus parked at Bldg. 350. To donate, please Sgt. First Class Jared Clapper at 309-782-5485 or visit www.bloodcenterimpact.org and use code 1554 to locate the drive.



July & August Blood Drive Hours Extended, Trial Basis: *"The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center drives at Rock Island Arsenal will feature extended hours from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. for the months of July and August. This is taking place as a trial to see if the extended hours will facilitate and enable more Arsenal Island employees to give who may not otherwise have the time in their schedule.*



Summer Blood Donors Entered into Drawing for a 2015 Jeep Patriot: *"This summer, you could win a 2015 Jeep Patriot by giving blood with Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center! It's part of the "Made in the USA" promotion to support the blood supply through the difficult summer months, when the rate of blood donation drops by about 20 percent..*

Also, a slight change in that every donor must present photo ID or a blood donor card to be eligible to donate blood. Arsenal badges are acceptable. The Army encourages its employees to volunteer as candidates for any of the variety of medical donor programs, including blood, bone marrow, and organ donor/transplant programs. For additional information [click here](#).

VIOS Schedule for July, August

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government Passport and Command Photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal on **July 14, 15, & 16;** and **Aug. 4, 5, & 6.** Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA Form 3903 Work Request using the [Visual Information Ordering Site](#) for the available times: 7:20 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. Click on "Frequently Asked Questions" on the [VIOS site](#) for more information. Walk-in appointments are not available. Photographs will be taken at the Photo Studio (Bldg. 56, basement, by elevator). Priority is: 1. Active Duty Soldier's DA photos; 2. Official Government passport photos; 3. Official command photos; 4. DA photos for Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers (not on active duty). The 8"x10" head and shoulders - Command Photos will be printed and available digitally. Additional prints can be ordered in VIOS. All scheduled dates can be found on the [RIA VIOS website](#).

RIA AUSA Annual Golf Outing - Save the Date

Save the Date! RIA AUSA will hold its annual golf outing and fundraiser on Friday, **July 17.** Sponsorship and entry forms will be forthcoming soon. Visit www.ria-ausa.org to keep posted about chapter activities. ([Flyer](#))

Hiring Our Heroes

Join us Wednesday, **July 22**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., for a job fair for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, guard and reserve members, and military spouses at the RiverCenter in Davenport. The Employment Workshop begins at 8:30 a.m., while the Hiring Fair is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For additional information and registration visit www.uschamberfoundation.org/event/davenport-hiring-fair



Croquet Tournament Fundraiser to Help Historic House

Step back in time for the fourth annual Colonel's Croquet Party on Sunday, **Aug. 23**, on Arsenal Island at 2 p.m. Dress in your croquet whites (not required) to play the same game of croquet you play in your backyard. Croquet courts will be set up on the lawn of the historic Quarters One, next to the Arsenal Golf Club. Teams of two can play in the fun round-robin tournament. Or there will be courts set up to just join in the fun and play croquet with other enthusiasts in the Quad Cities. We are going to have shorter courts for faster play this year. The championship court will still be full-size. Teams in the tournament portion are awarded a point for each wicket they pass through. There will a review of nine-wicket rules before play begins. Players will compete for the coveted Colonel Davenport trophy. Tickets are \$25 for adults; and \$10 for children 11 years and younger to attend the Colonel's Croquet Party. Hors d'oeuvres, croquet play, wine tasting, and tours of the house are included. This is a rain or shine event. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Jessica Waytenick at 309-737-4280 or purchase tickets online at www.davenporthouse.org.

Save the Date – 8th Annual Cards for the Troops

Please join us on Tuesday, **Sept. 29**, 6:30-9 p.m., at Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, for the 8th Annual Cards for the Troops. Hand-made rubber stamp art cards are created by hundreds of volunteers under the guidance of local stamping artists for our deployed troops to mail home to loved ones. No stamping experience required. To date, 36,000 cards have been sent through Cards for the Troops to our military serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, Africa, and to those aboard our aircraft carriers, the USS Carl Vinson and the USS John C. Stennis. Seating is limited... please RSVP to: mssipple1@gmail.com. Packagers needed also. Adults only (high school and older). There is no

charge for this event. Please bring one roll of Scotch double-sided tape – all other materials supplied. See you there. ([More](#))

Arsenal Island Employee Local Discounts

The following discounts are exclusively available to Arsenal Island employees — **The Venue:**

Located at 1405 5th Ave. in Moline, we would like to say thank you to all Rock Island Arsenal personnel – bring in your Arsenal ID/badge on Mondays and receive a 20 percent discount on food and soda (this excludes family feast special). **New Life Chiropractic Clinic:** All Arsenal Island

military and civilian employees will receive a 10 percent discount off its services located at 2500

18th Street in Bettendorf. **Chocolate Manor:** All Arsenal Island military and civilian employees will receive a 10 percent discount off their total purchase on any of our award winning homemade

chocolates at 110 E. 2nd St., Davenport, just show your ID. **Roosters Sports Bar and Grill:** All military and civilian's get 10 percent off their bill. Come head down for lunch at 2130 3rd St., Rock Island, new specials daily. **Peachwave Frozen Yogurt:** Peachwave, 3431 Devils Glen Rd.,

Bettendorf, offers a 10 percent discount every day to all military and veterans. *This information is included for general workforce interest and does not constitute endorsement of the businesses or products.*



Arsenal Traffic/Construction



Parking Lot Closures

The Directorate of Public Works plans to close parking lots 1D and 1E for repairs. Closure of lot 1D began June 15, with completion expected in six weeks. Closure of Lot 1E would immediately follow with completion expected in six weeks. These lots are located along Rodman Avenue in front of buildings 108, 109, and 110. Physical changes to the lot configuration will include the addition of curb and gutter and closure of the East Street access point to Lot 1E. Striping changes include removal of all southern parking spaces in order to create a fire lane and the conversion of northern parking spaces to perpendicular parking in order to optimize the remaining parking spaces. Reserved parking changes in the lots include the addition of 10 accessible parking spaces to lot 1E, six short term parking spaces in lot 1E, and four motorcycle parking spaces in lot 1D. All remaining spaces would be open parking. One lane of access to Rodman directly north of Bldg. 109 will remain open to facility parking when the lot is not closed. Drivers are encouraged to use Lot 1O (south of Memorial Field) as an alternative parking lot for the duration of construction. Barricades and signs will be posted to warn and control traffic.

Parking for JMC Change of Command

JMC is using 74 parking spaces in Lot 1O and the entire Memorial Field parking lot to support their Change of Command Ceremony on **July 9**. These will be coned off the evening of July 8 after the duty day.

JMC Organizational Day Parking

JMC is hosting an "Organization Day" at Memorial Field on **July 28**. JMC is using 15 spaces that will be blocked off near the pavilion (marked on attached) for the entire day to accommodate vendors, handicap personnel, etc. Parking passes may be issued for the people needing reserved

spaces and have them display the pass in their windshield for the duration of the event. Please note, JMC will not be blocking the road off to people who want to use the ATM.

Rock Island Viaduct Sidewalk Closed to Pedestrians

"Sidewalk Closed" signs have been erected at either end of the Rock Island Viaduct sidewalk. These signs were placed because of the tripping hazard that the condition of the sidewalk presents. Attached illustration indicates the suggested alternative route (STR276 American Discovery Trail and Pedestrian Bridge) during the closure.



Building/Space Closures



There are no announcements at this time.



Active Duty/Reserve Zone



Walk-In Pet Vaccination Clinic

The Great Lakes Veterinary Services will be hosting a pet vaccination clinic Wednesday, **July 15**, 1-6 p.m.; and Thursday, **July 16**, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department. All active duty military, military reserve and National Guard, military retirees, and dependents with valid identification cards are eligible to use this service. There is a charge for all services provided with payment in cash or check only. Please see [our website](#) for prices. Questions? Please call at (847) 688-5740 ext. 4. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/greatlakesvtf.



Bix 7 Road Race Waives Entry Fee

The [Bix 7 Road Race](#), **July 25**, in Downtown Davenport, again this year is honored to be able to waive entry fees for active duty military, guard and Reserve. Complete the [printable entry form](#), enter your military ID number where indicated and mail your entry to us. You must pick up your packet in person at the Bix 7 Expo and show your military ID. Last year several hundred military, guard and reserve participated. Additionally, last year the Bix committee was able to establish two distinctive viewing areas for veterans. The starting line saw several honor flight participants, while the top of Brady and Kirkwood had a large contingent representing the Vietnam veterans. The 41st Anniversary is shaping up to be another great event and we're excited to show our continued appreciation to the military. ([Entry Form](#))

Putnam Museum is a Blue Star Member Institution

The Putnam is now one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of



An Operation Appreciation initiative from Blue Star Families in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

Defense. Any active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve, and up to five family members, receive free admission to the Museum and Science Center **Memorial Day through Labor Day**. "We are honored and excited to be able to bring this program to our Quad Cities Military families," said President and CEO Kim Findlay. "Through our participation in the Blue Star Museums program, we are able to show our continued support for all our active military and thank them for their hard work and sacrifices." Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The program provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums.

Brides Across America Celebrates Independence Day By Giving Away Free Wedding Gowns Nationwide

Brides Across America is proud to kick off its annual Operation Wedding Gown campaign at participating bridal salons nationwide. From **July 11-18**, in honor of Independence Day, qualified military brides can go into a participating salon and receive a free wedding gown. "Operation Wedding Gown" has grown and we are now able to grant weddings to our military couples in need. Oftentimes military couples find it difficult to plan their "fairy tale" wedding due to deployment, injury and/or economic hardship. With the collaborative effort, Brides Across America has donated more than 14,000 gowns to military brides and has gifted 20 weddings. More information can be found at www.bridesacrossamerica.com.

Battle for the Rock

The Battle for the Rock - Modern Army Combatives Program Tournament, sponsored by Army Sustainment Command and First Army, will take place **Sept. 12** at the Rock Island Arsenal Fitness Center kicking off at 8 a.m. Championship bouts starting will be 2-4 p.m., with the awards presentation immediately following last bout. Participants should include Soldiers and teams on Rock Island Arsenal and in the general area. (Team size will not exceed 14 Soldiers; teams can have a maximum of two fighters per weight class). Registration forms must be received no later than **Sept. 10**. Weigh-ins will be **Sept. 11**, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the Fitness Center. All registrations must be scanned and emailed to david.r.stephenson8.mil@mail.mil or mailed to United States Army Sustainment Command, W0DA USA SUSTAINMENT CMD, 390 / Rm HHC Command Suite Basement SW, Rock Island, IL 61299, ATTN: SFC Stephenson. For more information call 309-782-3234.



Military 4-H Scrapbooking SPIN Club

Explore, Engage, Innovate... the world of scrapbooking. Take photos you have and create a scrapbook that will last a lifetime. Each month youth will learn a new scrapbooking technique and create a page. Snacks will be at each meeting. Eligibility includes military youth, ages 12-18. This program will meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month, **Feb. 18 to Dec. 16**, 5:30-7 p.m., in the Cassion Room, in Bldg. 60. Cost includes a supply fee of \$20; non-4-H members add a \$20 program fee (fee waivers available upon request). [Register online today!](#) Or for more information call the University of Illinois Extension, Rock Island County 4-H Office at 309-756-9978. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate call 309-756-9978 at least two weeks in advance.

Safety Spotlight



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**



4th of July Safety Message

Independence Day honors the birthday of the United States of America and the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. It is a day of picnics and patriotic parades, a night of formal and informal celebrations, fireworks, a reason to fly the American flag, and a reason to stand proud as citizens of this great country. Many of you will be traveling to be with family and friends. I urge you to carefully plan your trips, ensure your vehicle is safe for operation and to allow extra travel time to accommodate unexpected delays. Drive defensively, obey speed limits and avoid the many distractions to safe driving. Do not text, nor utilize other-than hands free telephonic devices, and avoid any other activities that divide your attention and could distract you when operating your vehicle. If your planned activities include the use of fireworks, remember that improper handling may result in severe injury to yourself or your loved ones. The Consumer Product Safety Commission calculates that emergency rooms treated more than 7,200 people in 2014 for injuries associated with fireworks, eight of which resulted in death. Over half of these injuries were painful burns, most of which involved the hands, eyes, head, and face. Abide by local laws and be extremely cautious to avoid injury. Our commands are diverse with some calling the Rock Island Community home, while many others are serving at locations around the globe. All of us are critical to the defense of this nation and I want to thank all of you; Soldiers, civilians, contractors, Family members, and the American people whom which we proudly serve. I ask everyone to use good judgment this holiday weekend and be sure to include risk management in all of your plans. Many valuable safety tools are available at the US Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center website, <https://safety.army.mil>. - Kevin G. O'connell, Major General, USA, Commanding

Motorcycle Riding Courses

The Garrison Safety Office is offering Motorcycle Riding Courses for military personnel. The motorcycle rider training program is certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation. The courses are designed to help riders manage their risk and increase their skills through riding and classroom instruction. Per DODI 6055.4, DOD Traffic Safety Program, military personnel who operate motorcycles must be appropriately licensed to operate on public highways and must have successfully completed an approved rider or operator safety course meeting the MSF-based State-approved curriculum. Any military member operating a motorcycle on or off Rock Island Arsenal must be in possession of a MSF card when they ride to verify completion of required training. The motorcycle training courses at RIA are scheduled as follows:

- **Basic Motorcycle Riding Course: July 28-29** (two eight-hour days)
- **Experienced Rider Course: July 30** (one eight-hour day)
- **Military Sport Bike Riding Course: Sept. 22** (one eight-hour day)
- **Basic Motorcycle Riding Course: Sept. 23-24** (two eight-hour days)

Registration for courses is through the web-based "AIRS" system at

<https://imc.army.mil/airs/default.aspx>

Note: Each course is limited to 12 riders. If a minimum number of riders is not realized or if a need for a particular class is greater than the number of classes scheduled, a class may be cancelled or shifted. If the need exists for additional classes or you need further information please contact either

Nancy Carlson or Michael Chaplin via phone extension 309-782-1380 or via email nancy.l.carlson.civ@mail.mil or michael.j.chaplin.civ@mail.mil, respectfully.

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus



DoD Updates Equal Opportunity Policy to Include Sexual Orientation

The Defense Department has updated its military equal opportunity program to protect service members against discrimination because of sexual orientation, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said here today. Speaking at a DoD-Pentagon Pride Month event, the secretary said the department has made a lasting commitment to living the values it defends, including treating everyone equally. “We have to focus relentlessly on the mission, which means the thing that matters most about a person is what they can contribute to it,” Carter said. The update, he said, “ensures that the department, like the rest of the federal government, treats sexual-orientation-based discrimination the same way it treats discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, age and national origin.” ([More](#))

Morale, Welfare & Recreation



Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs.

All MWR Facilities Closed

In observance of Independence Day, all MWR facilities (except the golf course) will be closed on Friday and Saturday, **July 3 & 4**. Have a happy and safe Independence Day.

Ghost Hunters Dinner & Tour of Quarters One:

Enjoy a prime rib & chicken buffet at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse Friday, **July 10**, at 6 p.m., and then join the Rock Island Paranormal Society for a tour of Historic Quarters One. The Paranormal Society staff have spent countless hours in this massive Italianate style mansion and will regale you with tales of the paranormal activity they have experienced there throughout the years. The cost is \$35/person and reservations can be made by calling 309-782-4372. RSVP required by **July 8**

*Event subject to change/cancellation based on number of reservations. ([Flyer](#))

MWR Leisure Travel Office



Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bldg. 333. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., 309-782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

Outdoor Recreation's Annual Maquoketa River Canoe Trip

Join MWR Saturday, **July 11**, at 9 a.m., for a leisurely day of canoeing, kayaking and tubing on the scenic Maquoketa River. We'll meet at the launch in Monticello, Iowa, where you'll be issued equipment and set loose on the river for a fun day. See the flyer below for all pricing and further details or call 309-782-8630. Register online at: <http://tinyurl.com/RIA-RIVER-TRIP-2015> ([Flyer](#))

Cubs vs. Cardinals Bus Trip

MWR Leisure Travel has a Cubs vs. Cardinals bus trip scheduled. Cost will be \$99 per person to include transportation and ticket to game. Seats are located in Upper Deck Box Outfield. Departing from RIA at 6 a.m. from the COL Davenport Pavilion. Limited alcohol permitted on chartered bus. Coolers must fit under the seats and not block the aisle. No glass bottles. No smoking permitted on motor coach. Estimated return time will be 8 p.m. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Saturday, Sept. 19**

Time: **12:05 p.m.**

Discount Amusement Park Tickets and More at Leisure Travel

Memorial Day is the unofficial kick off to summer and Leisure Travel has discounts on all kinds of summer activities. Whether you are looking to book a cruise, need help finding a hotel, or just want to ride the rides at Adventureland or Six Flags Great America, Leisure Travel is the place to start. Call 309-782-5890, stop by the office in Bldg. 333 (next to the PX), or [visit our webpage](#) for more info and prices.

Disney LIVE! Three Classic Fairy Tales

Join Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Goofy as they take audiences on a captivating journey and magically bring to life three timeless fairy tale adventures. Discover Snow White as she searches for her one true love; Cinderella getting ready for her magical night at the ball; and Belle, from Beauty and the Beast, as she finds happiness in the most unusual place. Anchored amidst a transforming set, captivating choreography, innovative lighting and breathtaking costumes, this authentically-woven tale of "happily-ever-after" is a heart-warming Disney experience for the entire family. Children One & older need a ticket. Leisure Travel has discounted seats for both performances. Show times at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Seats on sale until **Oct. 9**.

Date: **Friday, Oct. 16**

2015 Adventureland Tickets

Leisure Travel has discounted 2015 admission tickets on sale. Gate price for Adult is \$40; Child is \$35; MWR is \$32. Two years and under free admission.

Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX Theatre

Leisure Travel is selling Platinum Supersaver Prepaid Admission Tickets to Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX theatre (formally 53rd cinemas and RAVE cinemas) These tickets have no restrictions or expiration date.

Child, Youth & School Services



Parent Education Conference

This seminar, taking place Wednesday, **July 15**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse, is open to anyone (including the general public) and is designed to give parents of children of all ages helpful tips and tactics for raising resilient, well balanced children. The seminar is divided into four individual workshop sessions, see flyer for session topics. Participants may attend any session they wish. For more info or to RSVP, call 309-782-6515 or email: Lorna.J.McDaniel-Wilson.naf@mail.mil. ([Flyer](#))

Covenant Cottage Child Development Home

Covenant Cottage Child Development Home is available for backup, emergency, and hourly care for ages four weeks through 12 years. The home is located on post and is open from 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Army Family Covenant Guidelines state deployed Soldiers are entitled to 16 hours free respite childcare per child, per month. For reservations call 309-782-6793. We encourage you to call as far in advance as possible because spaces fill quickly.

Army Community Service



ACS is located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor SE; [Visit our ACS website](#) or phone 309-782-0829. Call ahead for special accommodations when attending ACS classes. [Find us on Facebook click here](#). 24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline: **309-229-8412**.

Stress Management Workshop

This free workshop taking place Monday, **July 20**, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., in the Army Community Service Training Room, will teach techniques that focus on breathing and mindfulness that will help alleviate stress in your daily life. Call 309-782-0829 for more info and to sign-up. ([Flyer](#))

Couples Communication Class

Gain knowledge and learn skills that will enhance communication in your relationships on Wednesday, **July 22**, 5-7 p.m., in the Army Community Service Training Room. Participants need to RSVP to ACS 309-782-0829. ([Flyer](#))

Wrights Law

For many special needs Families, the search for support resources is never-ending. The capabilities and advantages of the internet provide a wealth of special needs information and resources to the Families that need it most. One of the better online resources available to all Families is www.wrightslaw.com. The website was created by two adjunct professors, Pete and Pam Wright, who taught courses on special education law and advocacy, and are co-founders and faculty at the William and Mary Law Institute of Special Education Advocacy. Pete is an attorney who represents

children with special education needs. Pam is a psychotherapist who has worked with children and families since the 1970s. The website offers a free weekly newsletter, "The Special Ed Advocate," the "Wrightslaw Way Blog," a listing of offered and available training sessions scheduled across the country, tips for special education law, and strategies to best serve your child(ren)'s special needs educational requirements, just to name a few. The great resource on the website is the legal aspect, examples of cases around the country that can provide great insight to the benefits available to special needs children based on case law. Books, DVDs, and links to other special needs resource websites are also readily available. The few minutes you spend checking out this online resource will be well worth your time. Individuals may contact the Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator at Army Community Services at 309-782-4736/0829 for more information on this topic other special need resources. *Disclaimer: This article is provided as information only. It is not a government endorsement of the website or services, products, or legal advice found therein.*

Employee Assistance Program



ASAP/EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor; visit our [ASAP/EAP website](#) or phone 309-782-4357 or 309-782-HELP. Office hours are from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After Hour Emergencies: 309-782-6116. Rock Island Arsenal Emergency Services will contact an EAP counselor who will call you back promptly. [Find us on Facebook click here.](#)

Summer Blues – July 2015

School's out and the kids are home enjoying the long days of summer; or maybe not. While July is considered by some to be the happiest month of the year, sometimes the change in routine or expectations of the season can lead you or your children to feel depressed. Depression in children or their parents is a concern as either can negatively affect a child's wellbeing. Children who are depressed may miss out on being with their peers and enjoying activities. It is also more likely for children who grow up with a depressed parent to be depressed in adulthood (Weissman, Wickramaratne, Nomura, Warner, Pilowsky & Verdelli, 2006). The good news is that treatment can help. A study reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that when mothers achieved remission of their depression symptoms through treatment their children also became less likely to be depressed ([National Institute of Mental Health, 2006](#)). Because treatment for mental health conditions can improve not only your life but also your children's, the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program invites you to take advantage of the free and confidential counseling and referral services that the program has to offer. Schedule an appointment with an EAP counselor by calling 309-782-4357. Master-level counselors can provide information, short-term counseling, and referral services. If you have any concerns about depression, talk it over with a trained professional at the EAP. You can also access an anonymous screening at www.militarymentalhealth.org.

Real Colors Training

The RIA Employee Assistance Program is presenting a Real Colors workshop on **July 7**, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., in Bldg. 56, First Floor, Classroom #1. Want to enhance your communication skills? Real Colors offers you a peek into human personality. It will provide you with a better understanding of human behavior and help you recognize, accept and learn to value the differences in others. Real

Colors has proven to be an effective tool to increase understanding, empathy and effective communication in the workplace. Sign up in [TEDs](#) (search key word "Real Colors") or for more information contact Lori Griffin at 309-782-2551.

Education/Training Review



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The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor, west end of the building. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Phone: 309-782-2065 Fax: 309-782-7901. [Please visit our website to learn more.](#)

Veteran's Education Benefits

Section 702 of the Veterans Access, Choice & Accountability Act of 2014, requires VA to disapprove programs of education for payment of benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill & MGIB-Active Duty at public IHLs if the school charges qualifying veterans and dependents tuition and fees in excess of the rate for resident students for terms beginning after **July 1** this year. To remain approved for VA's GI Bill programs, schools must charge in-state tuition and fee amounts to "covered individuals." • A Veteran who lives in the state in which the IHL is located and enrolls in the school within three years of discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. • A spouse or child using transferred benefits who lives in the state in which the IHL is located & enrolls in the school within three years of the transferor's discharge from a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. • A spouse or child using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship who lives in the state in which the IHL is located and enrolls in the school within three years of the service member's death in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/702.asp

Student Loan Forgiveness for Corinthian College's Students

Over the past six months, following enforcement actions by the federal government and other authorities, Corinthian Colleges, Inc., sold most of its schools and later closed the remaining ones. Numerous students have inquired about forgiveness for their federal loan debt from attending Corinthian schools. Visit the following link for more information.

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/about/announcements/corinthian>

Annual Commencement Recognition Ceremony

Save the date! The Rock Island Arsenal Army Education Center will host an Annual Commencement Recognition Ceremony to provide an occasion for service members to express pride in their academic accomplishments and for the Department of the Army to acknowledge the same. Where: Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, Rock Island Arsenal. Time: 1-3 p.m.; the ceremony begins at 1 p.m. with a reception to follow. Any Soldier who has graduated in the last year and would like to participate is encouraged to contact us.

Date: **Thursday, Sept. 10**

Area Schools to Visit RIA

The [Army Continuing Education Systems Rock Island Arsenal](#) is coordinating with Quad-City area schools to have them visit with eligible Ed Center patrons where they will meet with school

representatives and learn about educational opportunities in the Quad Cities. These visits will take place in Bldg. 56, Room 121, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The schedule for this fiscal year is: • Ashford University, **July 23**; • Black Hawk College, **July 9**; • Eastern Iowa Community College, **July 2, Aug. 6 and Sept. 3**; • Kaplan University **Aug. 13**; • Saint Ambrose University, **July 16**; • Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, **Aug. 20**; • Upper Iowa University **Aug. 12**.

Defense Commissary Agency / Exchange



The [Rock Island Commissary](#) and the [Exchange](#) are for active duty military and retirees only. There are exceptions for select items (mainly consumable) at the Exchange that can be purchased by Arsenal Island employees with ID. The Commissary makes fresh fruit baskets daily for you! Shopping for someone who has everything? Problem solved. They are hungry for fresh fruit. Just buy them a fruit basket and relax. Ask our friendly staff to make you one or order one in advance. Check out local specials and get POC information [HERE](#). For information on this and other Commissaries, visit: www.commissaries.com ([Facebook](#))



Arsenal Archive

Information for the Arsenal Archive is made available by the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. The Museum is open to the public, Tuesday through Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free. ([website](#))

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – June 29-July 5

On June 31, 1942, the RIA began to employ women for shop work. The first women hired for the shops were 52 females assigned to inspect metallic belt links. On June 31, 1831, Black Hawk arrived at Rock Island with 27 other chiefs and warriors for a peace conference held outside Fort Armstrong. Black Hawk signed a treaty in which he pledged to leave Illinois and not recross the Mississippi River without government permission. RIA workers started assembling Mark VIII Tanks on July 1, 1919. The order was for 100. Assembly of the last tank was completed on June 5, 1920. The mission was completed in 286 days.



Healthbeat

Practice Fireworks Safety Year-Round

Fireworks are a summer tradition and inspire the "oohs" and "aahs" of millions every year. Although fireworks are a thrilling way to celebrate the majesty of our great nation, they can also cause pain, injury and even death. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, or

CPSC, during the 30 days surrounding Independence Day, an average of 240 people go to the emergency room for firework-related injuries each day. Even sparklers, which are commonly and falsely viewed as "safe" for young children, need to be handled with caution. According to CPSC, 31 percent of reported 2014 fireworks injuries were caused by sparklers. These injuries can be severe, as sparklers burn up to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is as hot as a blowtorch. ([More](#))

Summertime Means the Start of Skin Protection Season

It is finally summertime, so what better way to celebrate than by going out and enjoying the summer sun? You probably put on sunscreen before going swimming or going to the beach because you know that the sun's ultraviolet rays, or UV rays, can damage your skin in just 15 minutes. But wait, not so fast! You are in danger from the sun's UV rays any time you are outside. Ultraviolet radiation is defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as the "part of sunlight that is an invisible form of radiation." There are two types of harmful UV rays: ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB). While UVA is the most dangerous type, the CDC cautions that UVB rays can also have negative health effects. Too much exposure to UV rays can cause sunburn, where the radiation literally burns your skin and causes it to age prematurely. Along with being painful, sunburn can have long-term consequences. The World Health Organization warns that UV rays cause damage to skin cells that can result in skin cancer along with other harmful effects to your eyes, skin, and immune system. The National Cancer Institute cautions that skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States and getting just one blistering sunburn increases your risk. ([More](#))

Protect Yourself from Insect, Tick-Borne Diseases

Insect and tick-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever and Lyme disease are serious health threats which cause human misery, hardship and more than one million deaths worldwide each year. Many of these diseases can be prevented using a few simple protective measures. Preventing Bites: Protect exposed skin from bites by applying EPA-approved repellents containing DEET or Picaridin. Wear permethrin-treated clothing, which repels ticks, mosquitoes and other biting insects. Some military uniforms and civilian outdoor clothing come pre-treated with permethrin. These garments are highly recommended because factory-treatment lasts the lifetime of the garment. If your uniform or clothing has not been treated with permethrin, you can treat it yourself with commercially-available aerosol/pump-spray products containing 0.5 percent permethrin, which typically lasts for six weeks and six washings. Wearing long pants and long-sleeved shirts also reduces bites by covering your skin. ([More](#))

Notes for Veterans



Veterans Identification Card Act of 2015

The Senate passed The Veterans ID Card Act which will give all veterans who have a DD214 or other document, like NGB22, entitlement to a Veterans ID card that identifies them as a Veteran of the Armed Forces. This would be available to all veterans who honorably completed any term of service. Specifically this directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to issue a Veteran's Identification Card to a requesting veteran who is neither entitled to military retired pay nor enrolled in the VA system of patient



enrollment. Requires such card, among other things, to: (1) display the veteran's name and photograph, and (2) serve as proof that the veteran has a DD-214 form or other official document in his or her military personnel file that describes the veteran's military service. Directs VA to charge a card fee. States that such card shall not serve as proof of entitlement to any benefits. The Senate changes to the House version of the bill need to be passed by the House before it can go to the President's desk for possible signature. ([More](#))

VA Will Extend Benefits to All Same-Sex Couples

The Department of Veterans Affairs said Monday that same-sex couples in states across the country will now have access to a raft of denied benefits following the Supreme Court's landmark marriage equality decision. The couples will no longer be denied VA disability pay, home loan guarantees, death pensions and burial rights based on the laws of the states where they have lived and worked, the department announced. A spokeswoman said the VA will send out new guidance to all staff and will temporarily halt any benefit applications that would have been denied under previous guidelines. The VA had been issuing benefits only to same-sex partners who lived in a state that permitted gay marriage at the time of their union or who lived in one of those states during their service. But the Supreme Court effectively struck down state bans on same-sex marriage — though some have vowed challenges — and removed the basis for the department's rules. ([More](#))



Around the Q.C.



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July 4: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (The District, Rock Island & Downtown Davenport)

July 4: [Firecracker Run & Parade](#) (Run starts at 7:30 a.m. with the parade at 1 p.m., East Moline)

July 4: [Bettendorf Old-Fashioned 4th of July](#) (parade at 10 a.m.)

July 6-12: [John Deere Classic PGA TOUR](#) (TPC Deere Run golf course, Silvis, Ill.)

July 9-11: [Walcott Truckers Jamboree](#) (Iowa 80 Truckstop, Walcott, Iowa)

July 11: [Rally in the Valley Cruise-in](#) (Coal Valley, Ill.)

July 15-19: [Rock Island County Fair](#) (Fairgrounds, East Moline)

July 17: [Rock Island Arsenal Chapter AUSA Annual Golf Outing](#) (Arsenal Island Golf Course)

July 18: [7th Annual Bark in the Park 5k Fun Run/Walk](#) (Geneseo City Park, Geneseo, Ill.)

July 22: [Hiring Our Heroes employment event](#) (RiverCenter in Davenport)

July 24-25: [Downtown Street Fest](#) (2nd Street in downtown Davenport)

July 25: [Bix 7 Run/Walk](#) (Downtown Davenport)

July 30-Aug. 2: [Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (RiverCenter/Adler Theatre, Davenport)

Aug. 4-9: [Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport)

Aug. 6: [Freedom Run 5k](#) (Moline)

Aug. 7-8: [Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District, Rock Island)

Aug. 13-15: [Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa & Port Byron, Ill.)

Aug. 15: [Graduation Destination, Take the Journey, Finish It!](#) (River's Edge, 700 W. River Drive, Davenport)

Aug. 15: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)

Aug. 28-29: [River Roots Live](#) (Downtown Davenport)

Aug. 28-30: [World Series of Dragracing](#) (Cordova Dragway, Cordova, Ill.)

Sept. 4-7: [Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)

Sept. 5-6: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)

Sept. 5-7: [Labor Day Weekend Pow Wow](#) (Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)

Sept. 12: Battle for the Rock (RIA Fitness Center)

Sept. 12: [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)

Sept. 12: [QCA Heritage Tractor Parade & Show](#) (John Deere Pavilion, Moline)

Sept. 12-13: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)

Sept. 18-19: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19: [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19-20: [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Sept. 27: [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (downtown Moline)
Sept. 25-27: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
Oct. 10: [Trinity Quad Cities Classic Regatta](#) (Mississippi River in Moline)
Oct. 11: [Apple Fest](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)
Oct. 29: [Fright Night](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Oct. 24: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Nov. 20-29: [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Lighting on the John Deere Commons](#) (Downtown Moline)
Dec. 4-6: [Heartland Emergency Response Conference Expo](#) (QCCA)

Island Insight

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[Col. Elmer Speights, Jr.](#), Garrison Commander; [Eric Cramer](#), Public Affairs Officer; [Mark Kane](#), Editor

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